



उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लि०

(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम)

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd.

(A. Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)

CIN : U40109UR2001SGC025867

Email ID: df@upcl.org Website: www.upcl.org

No. 2529 /UPCL/RM/N-55

Dated 09-09-2020

BEFORE THE UTTARAKHAND ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF:


Application seeking approval on the draft plan to pass on the benefit in electricity tariff to the end consumers of the State

AND

IN THE MATTER OF: UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED.

.....Petitioner

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(Naveen Kumar Gupta)
Director (Finance)

File No.

Case No.

BEFORE THE UTTARAKHAND ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF : Application seeking approval on the draft plan to pass on the benefit in electricity tariff to the end consumers of the State.

And

In the matter of : Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited.

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The humble applicant most respectfully showeth:

1. Specific Legal Provision under which Petition is being filed:

Hon'ble Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission (Commission) has been conferred with the power to determine the rate of electricity tariff pursuant to the provisions under Section 62 of The Electricity Act 2003. As the draft plan of the petitioner is related to provide rebate in electricity tariff to the consumers, approval of Hon'ble Commission on the same is essential before its implementation.

2. Limitation:

No limitation has been specified to file such petition before the Hon'ble Commission.

3. Facts of the Case:

3.1 On 24th March 2020, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India announced 21 day nationwide lockdown to contain spread of Covid-19 contagion. As such the lockdown had taken an unprecedented and overwhelming toll on the functioning of industrial and commercial sectors across India. Suddenly all human activities came to standstill as people of the Country were requested by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to observe "Social Distancing" and to stay at home for their own safety to contain the spread of COVID-19. Due to the said reasons, the Commercial and Industrial establishments had gone into almost complete shutdown except a few such as pharma and food industries. The Commercial and Industrial activities were allowed from 18-05-2020 i.e. w.e.f. imposition of lockdown - IV. These category of consumers are demanding waiver off fixed charges from Government and Discoms.



3.2 On the demand of Consumers / representatives of these categories, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Uttarakhand on dated 13-04-2020 (**Annexure - A**) approved various relief measures in tariff to the electricity consumers of the State. Further, on the demand of the Private Agriculture Consumers and with a view to recover accumulated electricity dues, relief in Delayed Payment Surcharge was also approved by the Hon'ble CM on dated 13-04-2020 for the consumers who make payment of their electricity dues by 30-06-2020. Government of Uttarakhand vide its letter no. 429/I (02) 2020-06/01/2020, dated 21-05-2020 (**Annexure - B**) issued detailed orders extending various relief measures in tariff to the electricity consumers.

3.3 Pursuant to the directions issued by Government of Uttarakhand, the petitioner has allowed the following reliefs in tariff to the electricity consumers:

S. No.	Consumer Category	Relief in tariff provided to electricity consumers
(i)	Commercial category : Hotels, Restaurants and Dhabas etc.	UPCL vide its Office Memorandum No. 1333/UPCL/RM/N-55, dated 28-05-2020 (Annexure - C) ordered to waive off the fixed charges on the energy consumed for the period from March, 2020 to May, 2020 payable from the month of April, 2020 to June, 2020 by the Hotels, Restaurants and Dhabas. Financial implication on this account to the tune of Rs. 6 Cr. (approx.) shall be reimbursed by GoU to UPCL as per GO No. 429/I (02) 2020-06/01/2020, dated 21-05-2020.
(ii)	Commercial category : Other than Hotels, Restaurants and Dhabas etc. and Industrial Category	UPCL vide its Office Memorandum No. 3372/ प्रोनि०/उपाकालि/ओएम, dated 01-05-2020 (Annexure - D) ordered to defer the fixed charges on the energy consumed for the period from March, 2020 to May, 2020 payable from the month of April, 2020 to June, 2020 by the consumers of Non - Domestic / Commercial category and Industrial Category. The recovery of these fixed charges shall be done in four equal monthly installments from July, 2020 to October, 2020 without any delayed payment surcharge.

S. No.	Consumer Category	Relief in tariff provided to electricity consumers
		Financial implication on this account to the tune of Rs. 8 Cr. (approx.) shall be reimbursed by GoU to UPCL as per GO No. 429/I (02) 2020-06/01/2020, dated 21-05-2020.
(iii)	Private Tubewells / Agriculture Category	UPCL vide its Office Memorandum No. 3371/ प्र0नि0 / उपाकालि/ओएम, dated 01-05-2020 (Annexure - E) ordered to waive the 100% delayed payment surcharge of those consumers who make payment of their electricity dues by 30-06-2020. Financial implication on this account to the tune of Rs. 3.64 Cr. (approx.) shall be reimbursed by GoU to UPCL as per GO No. 429/I (02) 2020-06/01/2020, dated 21-05-2020.
(iv)	All categories	UPCL vide its Office Memorandum No. 3391/प्र0नि0 /उपाकालि/ओएम, dated 02-05-2020 (Annexure - F) ordered to allow 1% rebate on the due payment made out of current bill through digital mode. The maximum amount of this rebate is Rs. 1 lakh for HT consumers and Rs, 10,000 for LT consumers per bill. Financial implication on this account to the tune of Rs. 2 Cr. per month (approx.) shall be borne by the petitioner through Working Capital Management. Further, as per approval of Board of Directors, the petitioner will request the Hon'ble UERC for allowing the said value of rebate in ARR at the time of truing-up exercise for FY 2020-21.
(v)	All categories	It has been ordered by the petitioner not to disconnect supply of electricity to the consumers by 30-06-2020 due to non-payment of electricity bills.
<p>Remark :</p> <p>On the demand of consumers / representatives of Dharmshalas, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Uttarakhand on 08-06-2020 announced to waive off the fixed charges of Dharmshalas for the period from April, 2020 to June, 2020. UPCL vide its letter no. 1393/UPCL/RM/N-55, dated 08-06-2020 (Annexure -G) submitted a proposal in the matter to GoU seeking approval for reimbursement of fixed charges of Rs. 24 lakh (approx.) to be waived by UPCL. UPCL may take action in the matter as per approval of GoU.</p>		



3.4 It is further submitted that the Ministry of Power, Government of India vide letter no. 11/16/2020-TH-II, dated 10-06-2020 (**Annexure - H**) provided the details of rebate of Rs. 39.42 Cr. as offered by various Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies to the State of Uttarakhand and desired from GoU to furnish a detailed statement alongwith timeline indicating how the State Government shall be actually passing on the benefits of this rebate to the end consumers. As per direction of GoU, UPCL vide its letter no. 1464/UPCL/RM/N-55, dated 16-06-2020 (**Annexure - I**) provided the plan for passing on the benefit / rebate to the end consumers. As there were complete lockdown in the month of April, 2020 and the Commercial and Industrial establishments were badly affected during lockdown period, the petitioner has prepared the plan to provide the relief in fixed charges to the Industrial and Commercial Consumers for the consumption month of April, 2020.

3.5 The details of rebate in fixed charges finally received by the petitioner from Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies are as follows:

(i)	THDC Limited	:	Rs. 1,90,44,763
(ii)	NHPC Limited	:	Rs. 11,57,00,000
(iii)	Meja Urja Nigam	:	Rs. 81,00,000
(iv)	APCPL	:	Rs. 50,00,000
(v)	NHPC Limited	:	Rs. 6,74,86,303
(vi)	SJVN Limited	:	Rs. 3,18,00,363
(vii)	PGCIL	:	Rs. 14,43,09,130
	Total	:	Rs. 39,14,40,559

3.6 The draft plan to pass on the benefit to the Industrial and Commercial Consumers of the State, as received through reduction in fixed power purchase expenses / transmission charges from the Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies is as follows:

- (i) As per the provisions of tariff order, the fixed charge on LT Industrial Consumers for the month of April, 2020 has been billed on the basis of contracted load and fixed charge on HT Industrial Consumers for the said month has been billed on the basis of maximum demand or 80% of contracted load, whichever is higher. As such fixed charges amounting to Rs. 52.38 Cr. has been billed on these consumers for the month of April, 2020. With a view to provide relief to these consumers, fixed charges on them for the month of April, 2020 shall be charged on the basis of actual